

## COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 30, 2006

## ANIMAL SHELTERS CUT ADOPTION FEES FOR CATS & KITTENS

"It's Better with a Buddy" Program Will Also Encourage Adoption of Second Kitten

Starting today (May 30), the County Department of Animal Services is cutting its regular adoption fees in half for adult cats and offering a program to encourage people to also adopt kittens.

The regular adoption fee of \$58 will be cut to \$29 for anyone wishing to adopt an adult cat six months or older.

Also, under the "It's Better with a Buddy" program, those seeking to adopt a kitten will be encouraged to adopt a second one at a cost of \$29, a reduction from the regular \$58 adoption fee. The adoption fee for the first kitten would remain at the regular \$58 price.

"Because of breeding season, our three County animal shelters receive a high number of kittens and cats during summer," said Dawn Danielson, Director of the Department of Animal Services. "The department is offering these incentives to encourage those thinking about adopting a cat or kitten."

The "It's Better with a Buddy" program will allow people to get the benefit of having two cats.

"Having a buddy around reduces behavior problems due to boredom when you or your family can't be there," Danielson said. "It allows them to play whenever they want and may even eliminate a family squabble over whose kitten is it. When it comes to kittens, two really are better than one."

The reduced fees will be in effect throughout the summer. All cats and kittens are spayed or neutered, vaccinated, microchipped for owner identification and tested for feline leukemia before going home with their new families.

County animal shelters are located in San Diego, Carlsbad and Bonita. For directions and information, call (619) 236-4250 or visit <a href="www.sddac.com">www.sddac.com</a>.

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